

## *Holy Love Ministries — Maranatha Spring and Shrine* 37137 Butternut Ridge Rd. E. Eaton Township, OH — Elyria, OH 44039 (mailing address)

I, "Sister Anne" [Mary K. Farran], studied the purported messages of Maureen Sweeney for years, because two devout women told me that they found the messages helpful for their faith. Both had taken their families to the shrine. The "great promise" was that anyone who visits the shrine "in an open disposition" will receive an "Illumination of Conscience". But no one in their families would talk about whether they received this grace. Well, obviously that's a personal matter, so it was awkward to press them for details.

It was a nebulous and time-consuming discernment process to read volumes of innocuous messages. There was nothing harmful to the Faith, no doctrinal errors. There were vague references to chastisements, but never anything specific, never any significant message that hadn't been said at other approved apparition sites. Maureen Sweeney and her husband claimed that they had "humbly" submitted their messages to the diocese but were ignored or snubbed or persecuted. It was all very vague. For these vague reasons, the shrine is "ecumenical" and not under Roman Catholic jurisdiction. The messages (from Jesus and Mary) continually complain that church authorities are ignoring the warnings of chastisements and therefore many of the laity are not benefitting from these graces. Saints and holy persons have been persecuted in the past, Padre Pio, for example. I kept praying for light. If Jesus and Mary were truly speaking here, I didn't want to ignore them.

I had the opportunity to be in Ohio in October 2017 with several friends. We decided to attend the Oct. 7th event which promised special graces from God the Father. There was also to be a message, but of course Maureen is so "humble" that she doesn't appear to the pilgrims. Her messages are released, from behind a screen, as it were. We arrived at a very well-kept space of many acres. The parking was well-organized by persons who were paid. They were not volunteers, and the ones we spoke to weren't Catholic. People were collecting water from a pond called the Lake of Tears. It was meticulously carved in the shape of a teardrop. I saw no testimonies of healings. There were outdoor statues of good taste, an outdoor stations of the cross, and a gift shop doing a brisk business. We roamed the grounds several hours, speaking with pilgrims, and praying for the grace of the "Illumination of Conscience". At the end of the day my friends confessed that they were very open to the "Illumination" begging God to show them their hidden sins so that they could amend their lives. I, too, was very eager for this grace. But none of us received anything of the kind. This is a hoax friends. Stay away from it. Don't waste your time reading the messages or buying the books.